

EX-GOVERNOR BICKETT DIES AT RALEIGH HOME

Former North Carolina Executive Succumbs to Paralysis Attack.

FUNERAL TO BE THIS MORNING

Had Served State in Legislature, as Attorney-General and in Its Highest Office, Deceased from Public Service January 1, 1921.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 28.—Former Governor Thomas Walter Bickett, who suffered a stroke of paralysis at his home here last night, died at 9:15 this morning without regaining consciousness.

The former Governor was stricken last night while he was seated beside the bed of Mrs. Bickett, who is eighty-three. He passed into unconsciousness and never came out of the state of coma. His physicians from the first held out absolutely no hope for his recovery, his only right side being paralyzed. Strong restoratives were administered to the former Governor at intervals throughout the night, but without any good effect.

The end came peacefully at 9:15 this morning. Mrs. Bickett, their only son, William Bickett, relatives and close friends being at his bedside.

Body Lies in State at Capitol

The body of former Governor Bickett will lie in state in the rotunda of the State Capitol from 9 o'clock to 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, when it will be carried to Christ Episcopal Church, of which the former Governor was a member, where funeral services will be conducted at 11:30 o'clock by Rev. Milton W. Barber. Following the service at the church, the body will be taken through the country to Lenoirville, where burial will take place late tomorrow.

As soon as the news of the former Governor's death was announced, the flags on all State buildings were placed at half-mast and the State officers were closed.

Sketch of Notable Career

Thomas Walter Bickett was born in Monroe, Union County, N. C., on February 28, 1839, the son of T. W. and Mary A. Bickett. He was the eldest of four children, whose father died when he was but 13 years old. After attending the public schools at Monroe, young Bickett went through Wake Forest college, graduating with the class of 1859.

He taught school for two years and entered the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, passing the bar in 1882. He practiced law in Monroe and Lenoirville for a number of years and entered politics in 1907, when he was elected a member of the House of Representatives. Mr. Bickett was a member of the Democratic party.

Becomes Governor in 1916

In 1908, Mr. Bickett was elected Attorney-General and re-elected to that office in 1912. He retired from the office of Attorney-General in 1916 to become Governor of North Carolina, ending his term of four years as Governor in January of this year. Since leaving the Governor's office, Mr. Bickett has practiced law in Raleigh.

Governor Bickett was regarded by one of the best speakers and orators in the State. He was in great demand during the war as a speaker and visited various sections of the country in the interest of the Liberty loan drives and other war activities.

NATION'S FINANCIAL CONDITION SHOWS GRATIFYING GAINS

(Continued from First Page.) factor in domestic trade. Harding declared that there are other important factors that must be taken into account.

Retail Prices Yet Too High

"The decline in price of manufactured goods," he said, "has not been as great as the shrinkage in value of raw materials, and the retail price index does not show a drop corresponding to that of the wholesale price index."

"This indicates that manufacturing costs have not declined in proportion to primary production costs, and that the costs of distribution and of doing business are disproportionately high."

Other Important Elements

Harding added that taxes, freight rates, rent and fuel, all of which are part of the agricultural situation.

Arms Conference Big Factor

Much depends also on the arms conference in Harding's opinion. "This conference is the most important which has ever been held in this country, and if the program submitted by the Secretary of State becomes operative, it will have a profound effect upon the finances of the world," he said.

Sums which were spent on armament, he explained, would stimulate the revival of business activity, if released for constructive or productive use.

"Explains Cycle of Business." Business has been in a recession, he declared, something after this fashion: First, business activity and increasing production; second, excessive speculation and speculation followed inflation; third, a long period of slow liquidation, business depression and stagnation; fourth, revival.

"There are many indications that the beginning of revival is not far distant," he said. "When it does definitely set in, it will be followed in due course by a new era of prosperity."

CHICAGO COUNCIL VOTES FOR BEER AND WINES

Calls on Nation and State to Amend the Prohibition Laws.

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The Chicago City Council by a vote of 22 to 2 today called on the nation and state to amend the prohibition laws to permit the sale of "wholesome beer and light wines."

The resolution asserts that "the enactment of the Federal prohibition act failed to meet the approval of the general public throughout the country" and after directing State officials to be sent to national and State officials, calls upon the Governor of Illinois to include the subject matter expressed in the resolution in any call for an extraordinary session of the Legislature.

CANNIBALISM IS REPORTED OFFICIALLY FROM FAMINE DISTRICTS OF RUSSIA

(By Associated Press.) RIGA, Dec. 28.—The first official report of cannibalism in the famine districts of Russia has been made to the all-Russian Soviet Congress by Delegate Ovsienko, of Samara, according to a dispatch to the official Russia News Agency, dated Moscow.

"At Hamikovsky the parish people are eating the bodies of their dead," Ovsienko told the congress. "It is dangerous to bury the famine victims in the presence of the people, and guards must be kept over them until they are in a state that makes eating impossible."

Ovsienko said that Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, high commissioner of the International Committee of Russian Relief, even though a hardened explorer, returned to Moscow sickened by the scenes he witnessed in the stricken districts. The speaker said that children are being taken to the Steppes and left there to die; that mothers, maddened by their experiences, cut the throats of their babes.

At the beginning of January, continued Ovsienko, the Soviets, with all their outside aid, will be able to feed only half the starving children and only one-twentieth of the adults. The rest of the people would have to die while awaiting help.

FRENCH DEFINITELY REFUSE TO REDUCE NAVAL DEMANDS

(Continued from First Page.)

by civilized nations for the protection of the lives of neutrals, and non-combatants at sea in time of war, declare that among those rules the following are to be deemed an established part of international law:

"1. A merchant vessel must be ordered to stop for visit and search to determine its character before it can be captured.

"2. A merchant vessel must not be attacked unless it refuses to stop for visit and search after warning. A merchant vessel must not be destroyed unless the crew and passengers have been first placed in safety.

"3. Belligerent submarines are not under any circumstances exempt from the universal rules above stated, and if a submarine cannot capture a merchant vessel in conformity with these rules, it is to be deemed an established part of international law that it is to be destroyed from attack and from capture, and to permit the merchant vessel to proceed unmolested.

"4. The signatories powers insist on the adherence of all other civilized powers to the foregoing statement of established law to the end that there may be a clear public understanding throughout the world of the standard of conduct by which the public opinion of the world is to pass judgment upon future belligerents.

"5. The signatories powers recognize the practical impossibility of using submarines as commerce destroyers without violating the requirements universally accepted by civilized nations for the protection of the lives of neutrals and non-combatants, and to the end that the prohibition of such use shall be universally accepted as a part of the law of nations, they declare their assent to such prohibition and invite all other nations to adhere thereto.

Seek Humane Regulations

"6. The signatory powers, desiring to insure the enforcement of the humane rules declared by them with respect to the prohibition of the use of submarines in warfare, further declare that any person in the service of a belligerent power who is deemed to have violated the laws of war, and shall be liable to trial and punishment as if for an act of piracy, and may be brought to trial before the civil or military authorities of any state powers with in the jurisdiction of which he may be found."

"7. For the British Mr. Balfour expressed warm sympathy both with the substance of the resolutions and their form." Senator Schaefer also expressed "sympathy" for the resolutions, but deferred detailed consideration pending distribution of the resolutions for study by the committee members. Mr. Sarraut, for the French group, and Mr. Hanbury for the Japanese, took the same view, and the discussion was then directed by Mr. Hughes to the subject of aircraft carriers.

Definite Action Deferred

General sympathy for the purposes of these proposals was expressed by the representatives of all the powers, but definite action on the resolutions should an agreement be reached, it is to be submitted to all civilized nations with an invitation for world-wide adherence.

"Under these estimates, France would have a submarine tonnage of 50,000, as against 21,000 which she now possesses, and which it was proposed that she retain unchanged under the status quo plan of the American compromise. The United States has only 52,000 tons and Great Britain 22,000 tons, and each had offered under the compromise proposal to reduce to 60,000.

All the powers expressed their disappointment over the French decision, even the Japanese, who had themselves declined to accept the compromise plan, declaring they had hoped until today that an agreement could be worked out along the lines of the earlier American reduction plan. The most extended reply to Mr. Sarraut, however, was delivered by Mr. Balfour.

Balfour scores French stand. France had insisted on retaining the largest army in the world and had also adopted a capital ship strength

which, instead of reducing her present standing as a naval power, actually elevated it. In these circumstances, he continued, it was difficult to believe that the proposed increase in submarine and auxiliary tonnage was designed as a defensive move. He charged that the purpose of so large a submarine fleet was to make an illegitimate attack on merchant shipping in war time, and added that the whole proposition must be viewed with "an anxiety and disappointment" when it was seen that the new building program was to be carried out at the very door of Great Britain.

In a speech replying in turn to the British statesman, M. Sarraut declared the French government was free from any militaristic desires and had no desire to carry on illegitimate warfare. The French, he said, were merely presenting a program based on their national needs, whereas the other powers had sought to "authoritatively determine" an all-inclusive program without consulting her just requirements.

Earlier Reduction Plan of British. The proposal to prohibit construction of any auxiliary vessel of more than 10,000 tons and to limit armament of such vessels to guns of eight inches was presented by the American delegation and that proposing to limit the armament of capital ships to guns of sixteen-inch calibre was laid before the committee by Lord Lee, of the British group. Both were given general approval so far as the armament features were concerned, but only the British definitely accepted the 10,000-ton auxiliary limitation plan. The Japanese, Italians and French all said they must await further instructions.

INDIAN NATIONALIST CONGRESS CONVENES

(By Associated Press.) AHMEDABAD, BRITISH INDIA, Dec. 28.—The Indian Nationalist Congress opened yesterday under the presidency of Hakim Abdul Kham in the place of C. R. Das, the president of the Congress, who was arrested recently in Bengal.

Twelve thousand persons attended the Congress. A final in his speech he welcomed the government's policy of repression, which had strengthened the determination of the Indian people to continue their struggle more vigorously.

Messages were read from his and his wife, both of whom are in prison. They exhorted all the Indians to act bravely and to support their national volunteers and supporting their national activities.

Start Hydro-Electric Plant

NIMAGRAM FALLS, ONT., Dec. 28.—E. C. Henry, Premier of Ontario, threw in the switch that set in motion the first of the generating units of the Canadian Hydro-Electric Commission's Chippewa-Queenston development today. The great unit was set in motion without mishap. The distinguished men in public life in Canada and the United States attended the ceremony.

Boys' Drunk Leads to Still. MICHIGAN, Miss. Dec. 28.—Officers investigating the intoxication of three schoolboys near here located a thirty-gallon quantity still late yesterday, according to word received here today. The still was destroyed.

DEPOSED GRAND GOBLINS SEEK KLAN RECEIVERSHIP

Obtain Temporary Restraining Order, Restraining Alienation of Holdings.

Seek Scaup of Two Officers. Imperial Klange, Edward Young Clarke and Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler, Head of Propagation Department, Made Co-defendants in Suit.

(By Associated Press.) ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 28.—Receivership of all property, funds, documents and records of the Ku Klux Klan is sought in a petition filed in the Superior Court today by 174 Klange members of the Klan, headed by Harry B. Terrell, Lloyd H. Hooper, F. W. Atkins and A. J. Paden, Jr., deposed grand goblins.

Judge John T. Pendleton granted a temporary injunction against the Imperial Klange of the Klan and Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler, head of the propagation department, both of whom are made defendants in the suit. An additional feature of the restraining order is that the defendants are prohibited from handling, controlling, expelling or proposing to expel any Klange members whose names appear on the petition as plaintiffs.

VENIZELOS HONORED BY RICHMOND GREEKS

Only Few "Royalists" Refuse to Take Part in Celebration Held Here Yesterday.

With few exceptions the Greeks of Richmond, yesterday celebrated the birthday of Eleutherios Venizelos, Greek patriot and war Premier of the government. The few who did not take part in the celebration are termed "royalists" and still adhere to the principles which restored Constantine to the throne. Venizelos is now in the United States, where, it is said, he will remain several months. He is expected in Richmond some time in the early spring.

Charles Johnson, one of the leaders in the local Greek colony, has, at request of the Society of Greek Liberals, forwarded a message of felicitation to the famous statesman. This group yesterday held services in the Greek Church here, where speeches were made by Rev. Emanoel and Theodore Galatis. Similar services were held throughout the world, wherever a Greek colony is located.

Sues for \$1,500.25. A suit for \$1,500.25 instituted by the United States Beverage Company against W. C. Widdison, Harvey L. Dew and G. M. Thompson, in the City Circuit Court, was on trial at a late hour yesterday.

25,000 WELCOME DEBS BACK HOME (Continued from First Page.) In coming out to welcome me home tonight, that you did so because you respect my feeling and a man cannot ask more than that."

Mayor Charles W. Hunter, Republican, led the cheering that followed this remark.

The crowd was so dense around the station that two policemen, old friends of Debs, escorted him from the train.

"Not out of the hands of the police yet," chuckled the Socialist leader, grasping each by the hand. A police escort also accompanied

Fractures Hip in Theater. While attempting to change her seat during a matinee performance in a local theater yesterday, Mrs. E. R. Lacy, of 1035 West Grace Street, was painfully injured. She was taken in an ambulance to the Johnston-Willis Hospital, where physicians found she had suffered a fractured hip. Her condition was reported favorable last night.

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the truck on the three-block parade to the home. Hundreds of the crowd carried signs, red flags, or red fire. Signs Protest Imprisonment. Many of the signs protested against the imprisonment of Debs in the first place. Some of them were: "Prisons were made for and by laboring men."

"You can't fall the truth." "Don't commercialize—Daugherty." "Wilson is almost forgotten but everybody remembers Debs." While the majority of the crowd were residents here, thousands of miners came into town late in the day from the Indiana coal mines, while many Socialist leaders from all parts of the country also contributed a sizable element. Debs was presented with a huge floral tribute at the station.

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